

REFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION CO

1 2 Arizona Corporation Commission COMMISSIONERS DOCKETED 3 KRISTIN K. MAYES, Chairman **GARY PIERCE** MAY - 3 20104 PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY 5 DOCKETED BY **BOB STUMP** 6 DOCKET NO. W-01445A-05-0700 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF: (1) FRANCISCO GRANDE UTILITY DOCKET NO. WS-01775A-05-0700 7 COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, TO TRANSFER A PORTION OF ITS EXISTING CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO ARIZONA WATER COMPANY. DECISION NO. 71688 AN ARIZONA CORPORATION; (2) ARIZONA WATER COMPANY TO INCLUDE 10 CERTIFICATED AREA TO BE TRANSFERRED BY FRANCISCO GRANDE UTILITY COMPANY 11 IN ARIZONA WATER COMPANY'S CASA ORDER EXTENDING TIME GRANDE CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE 12 DEADLINE CONTAINED IN AND NECESSITY. **DECISION NO. 686<u>54</u>** 13

Open Meeting 14 April 27 and 28, 2010

15 Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission finds, concludes, and orders that:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On October 4, 2005, Francisco Grande Utility Company ("Francisco") and Arizona 1. Water Company ("AWC") ("Joint Applicants") jointly filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") to transfer a portion of Francisco's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") to AWC and for AWC to include the same area in AWC's Casa Grande CC&N.
- On April 12, 2006, the Commission issued Decision No. 68654 approving the joint 2. application of AWC and Francisco. Pursuant to Commission Decision No. 68654 (April 12, 2006), AWC was required to file, among other things, the following compliance items:

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- Copies of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's Approval to Construct ("ATC") for facilities needed to serve the requested transfer areas within two years of the effective date of the Decision.
- A Notice of filing indicating AWC had submitted for Staff's review and approval, a copy of the fully executed main extension agreements ("MXAs") for water facilities for the requested transfer areas within two years of the effective date of the Decision.
- A copy of the developer's Certificate of Assured Water Supply ("CAWS") for the requested transfer areas where applicable or when required by statute, within two years of the effective date of the Decision.
- 3. On March 10, 2008, AWC filed a request for additional time, until April 12, 2010, to file the above compliance items.
- 4. On August 6, 2008, the Commission issued Decision No. 70450, approving AWC's request for additional time, until April 12, 2010, to comply with Decision No. 68654.
- 5. On November 23, 2009, AWC filed a request for determination of compliance with Decision No. 68654; or in the alternative, a request for additional time to comply with Decision No. 68654 ("Request"). In its Request, AWC states that the remaining compliance items are under the control of the developer; the developer has prepared a regional groundwater model for AWC's entire Pinal Valley Water Service Area to demonstrate the physical availability of groundwater in the transfer area; an application for a Physical Availability Demonstration ("PAD") was filed with the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") in 2007, but has not yet been approved; the recession has significantly slowed the housing market; and because the PAD is a precursor to receiving a CAWS and no MXAs may be entered into without a CAWs, AWC needs more time to comply. AWC's Request seeks a determination that it has complied with the requirements of Decision No. 68654, or in the alternative, that AWC be granted an extension of time, until April 12, 2012, to comply with the Decision.
- 6. On January 19, 2010, AWC filed an amendment to the Request revising the map it submitted for the transfer area; providing a copy of the approved ADWR PAD ¹ for the transfer area; withdrawing a previously submitted MXA the Company erroneously believed included the transfer area; submitting a copy of the ATC application for the facilities needed in the transfer area; and withdrawing its request for a determination of compliance with Decision No. 68654. AWC further

¹ ADWR approved the PAD application for the transfer area on December 24, 2009.

requested to extend the compliance deadlines contained in Decision No. 68654, until April 12, 2012, for the ATC, MXAs, and CAWS related to the transfer area.

- 7. On March 5, 2010, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") filed a memorandum stating that Staff does not object to AWC's request for an extension of time, until April 12, 2012, to file the ATC, MXA, and CAWS, as required in Decision No. 68654. Staff further stated that it had contacted AWC on February 22, 2010, and AWC confirmed that the outstanding compliance items are under the control of the developer rather than AWC and the length of time requested to meet compliance is due to the continuing effects of the economic recession. Staff states it does not object to AWC's request for an extension of time to comply, but that Staff also recommends that no additional extensions of time be granted in this matter.
- 8. AWC has filed a timely request for an extension of time to comply with Decision No. 68654. Based on AWC's statements regarding the negative effects the economic recession has had on the housing market, the developer's continuing efforts to move forward in the transfer area by completing a regional groundwater model for the Pinal Valley Water Service Area, and obtaining a PAD, we find it is reasonable to grant AWC an extension of time to comply with Decision No. 68654, until April 12, 2012, to file the ATC, MXA, and CAWS for the transfer area.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. AWC and Francisco are public service corporations within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over AWC, Francisco and the subject matter described herein.
- 3. AWC's request to for an extension of time, until April 12, 2012, to comply with the requirements outlined in Decision No. 68654, is reasonable and should be granted.

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DISSENT

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Francisco Grande Utility Company and Arizona Water Company are hereby granted an extension of time to comply with Commission Decision No. 68654, until April 12, 2012, to file the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's Approval to Construct for the facilities needed to serve the transfer areas, a notice of filing indicating Arizona Water Company has submitted for Staff's review and approval, a copy of a fully executed main extension agreement for the water facilities in the transfer areas, and a copy of the developer's Certificate of Assured Water Supply for the transfer area where applicable or when required by statute.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.

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COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, ERNEST G. JOHNSON, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 3 rel day of May, 2010.

ERNEST G. JOHNSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DISSENT _____

DECISION NO. _____71688

| 1 2 | SERVICE LIST FOR: | FRANCISCO GRANDE UTILITY COMPANY AND ARIZONA WATER COMPANY | | |
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| 3 | DOCKET NOS.: | W-01445A-05-0700 AND WS-01775A-05-0700 | | |
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